

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A preview image display method for displaying a print preview image, the preview image display locates in a print control apparatus having a bookbinding print function for printing a book formed by stacking multiple bookbinding units composed of a designated number of sheets folded once, said preview image display method comprising:
  - a rendering step of laying out pages in an order after bookbinding and rendering images of the pages when bookbinding print is designated; and
  - a display step of displaying the images of the pages rendered in the rendering step as preview images.
2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the rendering step includes a step of rendering while dividing pages in units of bookbinding units.
3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the rendering step includes a step of laying out pages in a designated open direction.
4. The method according to claim 3, wherein the rendering step includes a step of rendering while dividing pages into pairs of pages each of which form a spread after bookbinding.
5. The method according to claim 3, wherein when one of right and left open directions is designated as the open direction, pages are rendered with pages that form

spreads being located at neighboring positions in the designated direction.

6. The method according to claim 3, wherein when a top open direction is designated as the open direction,  
5 pages are rendered with pages that form spreads being located at vertically neighboring positions.

7. The method according to claim 1, further comprising a page number rendering step of rendering page numbers of the pages in correspondence with the  
10 rendered pages.

8. The method according to claim 1, wherein said print control apparatus further has an insert function of inserting a cover page, and the rendering step includes a step of rendering a frame of the cover page  
15 to be inserted in the order after bookbinding when cover page insertion is designated.

9. A print control apparatus generating print data to be sent to a printer and having a bookbinding print function for printing a book formed by stacking  
20 multiple bookbinding units composed of a designated number of sheets folded once, comprising:

a rendering unit for laying out pages in an order after bookbinding and rendering images of the pages when bookbinding print is designated; and

a display unit for displaying the images of the pages rendered by said rendering means as preview images.

10. The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said  
5 rendering unit renders while dividing pages in units of bookbinding units.

11. The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said rendering unit lays out pages in a designated open direction.

10 12. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said rendering unit renders while dividing pages into pairs of pages each of which form a spread after bookbinding.

13. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein when  
15 one of right and left open directions is designated as the open direction, pages are rendered with pages that form spreads being located at neighboring positions in the designated direction.

14. The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein when  
20 a top open direction is designated as the open direction, pages are rendered with pages that form spreads being located at vertically neighboring positions.

15. The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said  
25 rendering unit also renders page numbers of the pages in correspondence with the rendered pages.

16. The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said print control apparatus further has an insert function of inserting a cover page, and said rendering unit renders a frame of the cover page to be inserted in the order after bookbinding when cover page insertion is designated.

17. A storage medium that stores a computer program for making a print control apparatus generate print data to be sent to a printer and display a print preview image, the print control apparatus having a bookbinding print function for printing a book formed by stacking multiple bookbinding units composed of a designated number of sheets folded once, comprising:

a program code of the rendering step of laying out pages in an order after bookbinding and rendering images of the pages when bookbinding print is designated; and

a program code of the display step of displaying the images of the pages rendered in the rendering step as preview images.

18. The medium according to claim 17, wherein the rendering step includes the step of rendering while dividing pages in units of bookbinding units.

19. The medium according to claim 17, wherein the rendering step includes the step of laying out pages in a designated open direction.

20. The medium according to claim 19, wherein the rendering step includes the step of rendering while dividing pages into pairs of pages each of which form a spread after bookbinding.

5 21. The medium according to claim 19, wherein when one of right and left open directions is designated as the open direction, pages are rendered with pages that form spreads being located at neighboring positions in the designated direction.

10 22. The medium according to claim 19, wherein when a top open direction is designated as the open direction, pages are rendered with pages that form spreads being located at vertically neighboring positions.

23. The medium according to claim 19, further  
15 comprising the page number rendering step of rendering page numbers of the pages in correspondence with the rendered pages.

24. The medium according to claim 19, wherein said  
20 print control apparatus further has an insert function of inserting a cover page, and the rendering step includes the step of rendering a frame of the cover page to be inserted in the order after bookbinding when cover page insertion is designated.